



## NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development  
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Glen Gatz (308) 237-3118

### **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTS STAMFORD WITH WASTEWATER NEEDS**

**Stamford, Neb., September 10, 2005**—The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development awarded \$486,000 to the Village of Stamford for a sewer system expansion project to bring the Village's system into compliance with Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) requirements. Community Development Block Grant funds of \$250,000 will assist in the project.

"The Village residents are thankful for the financial assistance to update and improve the sewer system bringing it back into compliance with NDEQ regulations. We really appreciate all the work that USDA Rural Development has done on this project and others which our community have completed," stated Majorie Ehrke, president for Village of Stamford.

Stamford's existing wastewater collection system was constructed in 1970. The treatment facility is a two-cell discharging waste stabilization pond system. Proper permit for discharging was never acquired, so system operated as a complete retention waste stabilization pond. High water levels eroded the pond dikes and dike separating the two pond cells has been overtopped. Small trees growing within the dikes have caused additional damage. Due to the condition of the system, Stamford resorted to discharging wastewater into Sappa Creek without a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for which a Consent Order by NDEQ was entered into to resolve the situation.

"USDA monies will assist in adding three cells next to the existing lagoon system treatment facility allowing Stamford's ponds to operate effectively as a complete retention system," stated Glen Gatz, community programs specialist for USDA Rural Development. "These improvements will allow the community to manage their wastewater within NDEQ regulations."

USDA funding derived from USDA Rural Development's Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loan and Grant programs. Loan of \$409,000 will be over 40 years at 4.125 percent interest.

For additional information contact Glen Gatz, (308) 237-3118, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); [glen.gatz@ne.usda.gov](mailto:glen.gatz@ne.usda.gov); 4009 North 6th Avenue, PO Box 730, Kearney, Neb. 68848-0730. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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